CHARACTER EDUCATION

Purpose: To establish the board's vision for and the basic structure of character education in the schools.

The board is committed to the ideals of good character and citizenship through character education as part of the district's mission of successful teaching and learning.

These ideals include, but are not limited to, the following:

- personal integrity and honesty
- respect for the rights of all persons regardless of race, religion, sex, age, physical condition or mental state
- sense of justice and fair play
- trustworthiness
- patriotism
- citizenship
- understanding, sympathy, concern and compassion for others
- discipline and pride in one's work
- respect for one's property and the property of others, including public property
- understanding of the rights and obligations of a citizen in a democratic society
- respect for authority
- good work ethic
- sound educational habits

Richland School District Two's The district expects each school to implement a program of character education that includes a meaningful and challenging curriculum that respects all learners and helps them succeed. The district will maintain school communities in which positive behavior is practiced, demonstrated, modeled and reinforced within an environment of mutual respect and dignity. The district Schools will implement this program character education programs in cooperation with parents/legal guardians of students, and will provide opportunities for the integration of character education in the curriculum.

The district will provide opportunities for the integration of character education throughout the curriculum in grades K-12.
CHARACTER EDUCATION

The process of integrating character education in school programs will include the involvement of students, staff, families and the greater school community (elected officials, community/civic/business leaders, religious institutions, youth organizations, government, media and citizens at large).

The district will require students to exhibit appropriate conduct when speaking with a public school employee while on school property or at a school-sponsored event. The student will address or respond to the employee with courtesy and respect by using such terms as sir, ma’am, thank you, and please.

The district Schools will assess the progress of the character education program each year using appropriate questions from the South Carolina Department of Education Parent, Student, Staff Survey and additional questions from the district/school survey and/or a comparable survey instrument. The evaluation will assess the character of the school and the extent to which students exhibit good character.

Cf. IG, IGCA, IHAQ, IHBC, IHCA, IKF, JLD, KB

Adopted 1972; Revised 4/25/78, 5/81, 12/12/00, 7/1/03, ^

Legal references:

A. S.C. Code of Laws 1976, as amended:

1. Section 59-17-135 - Character education policy; respectful behavior encouraged as amended by the South Carolina Education and Economic Development Act.